

## Message Text

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62

ACTION EA-14

INFO OCT-01 NEA-10 IO-14 ISO-00 INT-08 DLOS-06 COA-02

TRSE-00 EB-11 SCI-06 COME-00 AID-20 OMB-01 CIAE-00

DODE-00 PM-07 H-03 INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-07 PA-04

RSC-01 PRS-01 SP-03 SS-20 USIA-15 SAM-01 CEQ-02 SAJ-01

DRC-01 /172 W

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R 031114Z APR 74

FM AMEMBASSY COLOMBO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 0775

INFO US MISSION USUN NEW YORK 0339

AMEMBASSY BANGKOK

AMEMBASSY SAIGON

AMEMBASSY MANILA

AMEMBASSY TAIPEI

USLO PEKING

UNCLAS COLOMBO 0907

E.O. 11652 N/A

TAGS: ECAFE:OCON

SUBJ: PARACEL/SPRATLY ISLANDS DISPUTE

REF: COLOMBO 0906

1. FOLLOWING FULL TEXT PRC STATEMENT IN COMMITTEE FOR  
COORDINATION OF JOINT PROSPECTING FOR MINERAL RESOURCES IN  
ASIAN OFF-SHORE AREAS.

QUOTE: MR. CHAIRMAN:

HAVING TAKEN NO PART IN THE COMMITTEE FOR COORDINATION OF JOINT  
PROSPECTING FOR MINERAL RESOURCES IN ASIAN OFFSHORE AREAS,  
THE DELEGATION OF THE PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF CHINA HAS NO  
ADEQUATE KNOWLEDGE ABOUT ITS PAST AND PRESENT ACTIVITIES.

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BUT WE WOULD LIKE TO STATE OUR POSITION ON THE FOLLOWING QUESTIONS.

THERE ARE ABUNDANT SEA-BED MINERAL RESOURCES IN THE OFF-SHORE AREAS OF THE ASIAN COASTAL COUNTRIES. AS MOST OF THESE COUNTRIES ARE DEVELOPING COUNTRIES, THE PROSPECTING AND EXPLOITATION OF THESE RESOURCES IS OF ESPECIALLY GREAT IMPORTANCE FOR THE NATIOLAN ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT OF ASIAN DEVELOPING COUNTRIES. BUT SINCE THE 1960S, THE SUPERPOWERS, TAKING ADVANTAGE OF THE TEMPORARY ECONOMIC AND TECHNOLOGICAL DIFFICULTIES OF DEVELOPING COUNTRIES AND IN THE NAME OF "AID"NBR "SCIENTIFIC STUDY", HAVE DISPATCHED PLANES AND SURVEYING SHIPS EVERYWHERE TO BARGE AT WILL INTO OFFSHORE AREAS OF DEVELOPING COUNTRIES FOR PROSPECTING SEA-BED RESOURCES AND STEALING MUCH RESOURCES INTELLIGENCE IN AN ATTEMPT TO PROCEED TO CONTROL AND PLUNDER THE SEA-BED RESOURCES IN THESE AREAS. THIS SERIOUSLY IMPAIRS THE ECONOMIC INTERESTS AND STATE SOVEREIGNTY OF DEVELOPING COUNTRIES AND SHARPENS THE CONTENTION BETWEEN THE SUPERPOWERS FOR O RITIME HEGEMONY. THIS STATE OF AFFAIRS CANNOT BUT AROUSE OUR GRAVE ATTENTION.

THE SEA-BED RESOURCES IN CHINA'S COASTAL SEA AREAS HAVE LONG BEEN COVETED BY FOREIGN WORLD OIL MONOPOLIES. IN RECENT YEARS, CERTAIN COUNTRIES AND ORGEIZATIONS HAVE FREQUENTLY CONDUCTED OPEN OR COVERT MASSIVE GEOPHYSICAL EXPLORATION AND OCEAN- GEOLOGICAL SURVEY IN CHINA'S COASTAL SEA AREAS, INCLUDING THOSE OFF HER ISLANDS, INFRINGING ON CHINA'S SOVERIEGNTY AND ENDANGERING HER SECURITY. THE DELEGATION OF THE PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF CHINA HEREBY REITERATES THAT ALL THE SEA BED RESOURCES IN CHINA'S COASTAL SEA AREAS AND THOSE OFF HER ISLANDS BELONG TO CHINA. CHINA ALONE HAS THE RIGHT TO PROSPECT AND EXPLOIT THESE SEA-BED RESOURCES. STILL PROSPECTING AND DRILLING ACTIVITIES CARRIED OUT AT WILL IN CHINA'S COASTAL SEA AREAS AND THOSE OFF HER ISLANDS IN DISREGARD OF CHINA'S SOVERIEGNTY ARE ILLEGAL.

DIVISION OF JURISDICATION OF THE CONTINENTAL SHELF BETWEEN CHINA AND COUNTRIES BOARDINGON OR FACING HER SHOULD BE DECIDED BY THE COUNTRIES CONCERNED THROUGH CONSULTATIONS ON AN EQUAL FOOTING. TO ONE-SIDEDLY MARK OFF A LARGE AREA OF CON-

TINENTAL SHELF AS A SO-CALLED "JOINT DEVELOPMENT ZONE" BEHIND CHINA'S BACK IS AN INFRINGEMENT ON CHINA'S SOVEREIGNTY, WHICH UNCLASSIFIED

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THE CHINESE GOVERNMENT ABSOLUTELY CANNOT ACCEPT. ANYONE WHO ARBITRARILY CARRIES OUT DEVELOPMENT ACTIVITIES IN THIS AREA MUST BEAR FULL RESPONSIBILITY FOR ALL THE CONSEQUENCES ARISING THEREFROM.

THE GOVERNMENT OF THE PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF CHINA IS THE SOLE LEGAL GOVERNMENT OF CHINA. ALL AGREEMENTS AND CONTRACTS CONCERNING THE PROSPECTING AND EXPLOITATION OF CHINA'S SEA-BED

RESOURCES CONCLUDED BY THE CHIANG KAI-SHEK CLIQUE IN TAIWAN  
WITH ANY COUNTRY, INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATION OR FOREIGN STATE  
OR PRIVATE ENTERPRISE ARE ILLEGAL AND NULL AND VOID. NONE OF  
THEM WILL BE RECOGNIZED BY THE CHINESE GOVERNMENT.

MR. CHAIRMAN, THAT IS ALL FOR MY STATEMENT. UNQUOTE.  
VAN HOLLEN

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## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 JAN 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** n/a  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 03 APR 1974  
**Decaption Date:** 01 JAN 1960  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** n/a  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Authority:** n/a  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:**  
**Disposition Date:** 01 JAN 1960  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
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**Drafter:** n/a  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** N/A  
**Errors:** N/A  
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**Original Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Original Previous Classification:** n/a  
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**Page Count:** 3  
**Previous Channel Indicators:**  
**Previous Classification:** n/a  
**Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Reference:** COLOMBO 0906  
**Review Action:** RELEASED, APPROVED  
**Review Authority:** WorrelSW  
**Review Comment:** n/a  
**Review Content Flags:**  
**Review Date:** 14 MAY 2002  
**Review Event:**  
**Review Exemptions:** n/a  
**Review History:** RELEASED <14 MAY 2002 by bryansd0>; APPROVED <16 DEC 2002 by WorrelSW>  
**Review Markings:**

Declassified/Released  
US Department of State  
EO Systematic Review  
30 JUN 2005

**Review Media Identifier:**  
**Review Referrals:** n/a  
**Review Release Date:** n/a  
**Review Release Event:** n/a  
**Review Transfer Date:**  
**Review Withdrawn Fields:** n/a  
**Secure:** OPEN  
**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** PARACEL/SPRATLY ISLANDS DISPUTE  
**TAGS:** OCON, ECAFE  
**To:** STATE  
**Type:** TE  
**Markings:** Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005